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of new mission stations and the various problems of the work. Enough of the contact with the people and the struggle with the unusual conditions is written into the history to yield a knowledge of the geography of the country. The fight with yellow fever was severe, and nearly every chapter chronicles the death of a member of the devoted band. In reality the book is a memorial to the large number of missionaries who in a brief period lost their lives in this inhospitable land.

ROBERT M. BROWN.

## ASIA

**Über die geographische Verbreitung und die Formen der Al-tertümer in der Nordwestmongolei.** Von J. G. Granö. 55 pp. Reprint, *Journ. Soc. Finno-Ougrienne*, Vol. 28. Helsingfors, 1910. Fmk. 2.

The author has recognized that for a region so well explored as this border land of Mongolia at the meeting of forest and desert the mere listing of archaeological finds has little value. He prefers to discuss such material under the topics of site, such as grave mounds, and graves marked on the surface by parallelogrammatic stone enclosures, such as stone wallings and pillars. To these considerations of site he adds notes upon graphic art and inscriptions. Then in wider survey he traces the geographical extent of the several types of remains and differentiates therein the nomadic peoples whose support is in their herds and the agricultural people for whom fixity of habitation is beginning.

**Die Provinz Yünnan, ihre Handels- und Verkehrsverhältnisse.** Von F. Weiss. Reprint, *Mitt. Seminars für Orient. Sprachen zu Berlin*, Vol. 15, Abt. 1: Ostasiatische Studien. 1912.

This most western province of China proper, almost unknown twelve years ago, has been coming into light through the French railroad to the city of Yunnan, the French and British railroad surveys with incidental studies of population and resources and the work of several other explorers. This book is a good summary of the information collected by some though not all of the sources upon which our knowledge now depends, including the annual and decennial reports of the Chinese Customs Service. The material is logically arranged, compactly treated and is for the present the most complete and convenient source of reference as to the geography, population, resources, industries, communications and commerce of Yunnan.

**Chinesische Geschichte.** Von Dr. Heinrich Hermann. 519 pp. Index. D. Gundert, Stuttgart, 1912. Mk. 10. 10 x 6 1/4.

There are rich possibilities in the promise of modesty when the student prefaces his work with the simple statement "I am no historian, but an acquaintance with Chinese history struck me as essential to my duty in a mission high school." Historians of China there have been none. Histories of China have been many. The difficulty has lain in the fact that to comprehend the logical sequence in the chronological sequence of events of enormous ages in the Middle Kingdom it is necessary to have familiarity with the working of the Chinese mind in a psychology whose postulates are alien to our thought. The willow pattern plate exhibits in its single disk the whole difference between Orient and Occident. To Chinese taste that design tells clearly and perfectly a simple and pleasing tale; to us the story is almost undecipherable because it lacks the particular quality of perspective which we have learned to expect and which we, quite forgetting that its acquisition is a matter of but the most recent centuries of our art life, have come to regard as an immutable datum of nature. Thus we find in our libraries many histories of China and not a single history. The critic may not venture to contravene the modest preface of Dr. Hermann. We may not assert against his denial that this Chinese history is really a History of China. But it comes very close to that success. It is well balanced in all its parts, its narrative is clear and comprehensible, its philosophy is brilliantly explicative in exhibiting to our untrained minds the logic of Chinese thought in the causation of successive and dependent events. Our at-